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Australia: Radio Australia FM network expands

Text of press release by Radio Australia on 28 June

Melbourne: In the Pacific you can now tune into Radio Australia anytime driving to and from work, in a taxi, or while at home or in the office, simply by turning on local FM.

The ever-expanding Radio Australia FM network throughout the Pacific now delivers high quality broadcasts to audiences in the key urban centres across the Pacific. Providing a diverse choice of programmes that previously have been available only via shortwave and select rebroadcasts from Pacific national broadcasters, Radio Australia is keen to increase the interaction with audiences from across the Pacific.

With new services switched on this month in the Cook Islands (Rarotonga 93FM), Papua New Guinea (Lae 102.1FM), Kiribati (Tarawa 90FM) and shortly Vanuatu (Santo 103FM) the FM network continues to build on Radio Australia's long-standing commitment to Pacific audiences.

Newly appointed CEO of Radio Australia Mr Hanh Tran is delighted with the growing Pacific FM network. "It is exciting to see that in the Pacific our traditional radio business is alive and well, and if anything becoming more relevant to audiences than ever before. It's a reflection of our diversity that we can provide quality and tailored content to audiences in Asia via a range of online services and to urban areas in the Pacific via our own 24-hour FM broadcasts. It shows the true meaning of being a multi-platform, varied-content provider while meeting the demands of audiences that rely on us," stated Mr Tran.

Radio Australia now has 13 x 24-hour FM relays throughout Asia and the Pacific: Phnom Penh and Siem Reap 101.5FM; Dili 106.5FM; Port Moresby 101.9FM; Lae 102.1FM; Honiara 107FM; Port Vila & Santos 103FM; Suva and Nadi 92.6FM; Nuku'alofa 103FM, Tarawa 90FM and Rarotonga 93FM.

(**Source:** Radio Australia press release, Melbourne, in English 28 Jun 07 via BBC Monitoring)

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